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### 9th Annual Math Film Festival

University of Montana

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# 9<sup>th</sup> Annual MATH Film Festival

*in celebration of Math Awareness Month*

Sponsored by the UM Math Club (visit <http://www.math.umt.edu/mathclub>  
for an online version of the film schedule)

**Free  
Admission!**

**Tuesday, April 15, 2008**  
**UC Theater**

The topic of this year's Math Awareness Month is *Math and Voting* – see <http://www.mathaware.org/>.

## *Film Schedule*

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>3:10 pm</b> (3 min)  | The Math Geek (Produced by UM math major <i>Er Williams</i> )        |
| (60 min)                | <b>Infinite Secrets: The Genius of Archimedes (NOVA)</b>             |
| <b>4:18 pm</b> (2½ min) | Moebius Transformations Revealed                                     |
| (39 min)                | <b>MESH – A Journey Through Discrete Geometry</b>                    |
| <b>5:05 pm</b> (1½ min) | Bangkok Insurance  |
| (27 min)                | <b>Donald in Mathmagic Land</b>                                      |
| <b>7:00 pm</b> (3 min)  | The Math Geek (Produced by UM math major <i>Er Williams</i> )        |
| (19 min)                | <b>Hans Rosling Reveals New Insights on Poverty (TED Talk)</b>       |
| <b>7:30 pm</b> (1½ min) | Bangkok Insurance  |
| (100 min)               | <b>Flatland (an adaptation of the 1884 novel by Edwin A. Abbott)</b> |

**And during intermissions, music courtesy of *Calculus: The Musical!***  
**(<http://calculusthemusical.com/>)**

→ *The film descriptions are on the next page.* ←



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**Tuesday, April 15, 2008**  
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**The Math Geek (Produced by UM math major r Williams, 3 min.) 3:10 & 7:00pm**  
Short and funny, starring math major Nick P t rno as The Math Geek. It's a blast!

**Infinite Secrets: The Genius of Archimedes (NOVA, 2003, 60 min.) 3:10 pm**

In 1991, a small medieval prayer book was sold at auction. Miraculously, some original writings of Archimedes, the brilliant Greek mathematician, were discovered hidden beneath the religious text. Through scholarly detective work with the help of modern technology, this book now reveals Archimedes' stunningly original concepts, ideas, and theories—revelations that, if known sooner, might have reshaped our world. NOVA explores Archimedes' rare writings, as well as the book's mysterious beginnings, tumultuous history and amazing discovery. As the ancient text comes back from the dead, it unlocks its revolutionary contents—the infinite secrets of one of history's greatest thinkers. (Based on quotes from WGBH, the public television station that produces NOVA.)

**MESH – A Journey Through Discrete Mathematics, 2007, 39 min.) 4:18 pm**

Mesh is a groundbreaking computer animation that explores the advancement of discrete geometry from the ancient Greeks to contemporary research topics that have never previously been visualized. With its synthesis of cutting-edge visualization, breathtaking artistry, storytelling and humor, Mesh presents complex ideas in a way that is palpable and relevant to even a novice audience. The result is an ideal teaching tool that entertains and captivates. (Based on quotes from <http://www.zipheron.com>.)

**Donald in Mathmagic Land (Disney, 1959, 27 min.) 5:05 pm**

Back by popular demand! This is a favorite of kids and adults. Donald Duck participates in a remarkable adventure in Mathmagic Land, where the ancient Greeks tell him about some of their basic mathematical principles. Donald discovers that mathematics enters almost every phase of daily life – music, art, architecture, mechanics and games. And this year, for the first time, we can show this film on DVD – a great improvement over our old, worn-out VHS tape.

**Hans Rosling Reveals New Insights on Poverty (TED Talk, 2007, 19 min.) 7:00 pm**

In his presentation, Hans Rosling, a professor at Sweden's world-renowned Karolinska Institute, makes important statistics data come alive in the most spectacular way. Last year, we screened Rosling's first TED Talk from 2006. Jon Graham, one of our statistics professors, said at the time: "The way the data are presented is revolutionary in my mind. The software being used to depict relationships between multiple variables in different countries/regions over time is incredible. It is not often that we get to see such a powerful use of dynamic (as opposed to static) graphics to illustrate a temporal trend." This new talk of Hans Rosling is equally amazing, and has a surprise ending – don't miss it! After watching this video, go to <http://tools.google.com/gapminder>, where you can play with these statistics yourself.

**Flatland (A film by Ladd P. Ehlinger Jr., 2007, 100 min.) 7:30 pm**

Even if you have never read the 1884 novel "Flatland" by Edwin A. Abbott (you can find it free on the web), you'll like this animated feature film adaptation. It was created by independent filmmaker Ladd P. Ehlinger Jr., ([http://www.flatlandthefilm.com/about\\_Ladd.html](http://www.flatlandthefilm.com/about_Ladd.html)) who directed, animated and edited the entire film personally. For the film version, Ehlinger has kept much of Abbott's concept while updating the story to meet the needs of modern times. Flatland is a two-dimensional universe occupied by living geometric figures – squares, triangles, circles, etc. A Square, Attorney At Law, finds himself in the middle of two upheavals: the rise of martial law by the circular leadership of Flatland, and the arrival of a Sphere, a creature from a hitherto-unknown three-dimensional world. (Based on reviews found on the web.)

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